

CHINA MAIL.

Established February, 1845.

MAIL.

With which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List." Published every Evening.

VOL XXXIII. No. 4270.

號八月三日七百八千一英

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1877.

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.

日四月正年五丁

AGENTS FOR THE CHINA MAIL.

LONDON.—F. ALGAR, 8, Clement's Lane, Lombard Street. GEORGE STREET, 30, Cornhill. GORDON & GOTCH, Ludgate Circus, E.C. BATES, HERBY & CO., 4, Old Jewry. E.C. SAMUEL DRAGO & CO., 180 & 184, Leadenhall Street.

NEW YORK.—ANDREW WIND, 133, Nassau Street.

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, AND NEW ZEALAND.—GORDON & GOTCH, Melbourne and Sydney.

SAN FRANCISCO AND AMERICAN PORTS generally.—BEAN & BLACK, San Francisco.

CHINA.—SOUTHERN, QUELCH & CAMPBELL, 20, Wilson, Nicholls & Co., Frobisher, HEDGE & CO., Shanghai, LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., and KELLY & WALSH, Manila. T. HENSHAW & CO., Macao. A. DA GRADA.

AUCTIONS.

GENERAL WEEKLY SALE.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO. will sell by Public Auction, in their Sale Room, Praya Central, on

FRIDAY,

the 9th March 1877, at Noon,—

An Invoice of Ladies' and Gentlemen's Silk Umbrellas, Fashionable Perfumery in Cases, Toilet Soap, Cologne Water, Violet Powder, Table Cutlery, Cork-screws, Towels, Crystal Flower Stands, Japanese Toys.

12 cases Soda Crystals.

50 cases Gin, Cock mark.

Sundry Stationery.

Huntley and Palmer's Biscuits.

Hair and Wire Tube Brushes.

And,

An Invoice of R. Brown & Co.'s Paints, comprising Red Paint, Black Paint, White Lead, and White Zinc.

TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery in Mexican Dollars, weighed at 7.17. The Lot or Lots, with all faults and errors of description, at purchaser's risk on the fall of the hammer.

Hongkong, March 6, 1877.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

LAND AND PROPERTY.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO. have received instructions to sell by Public Auction, on

SATURDAY,

the 10th March, 1877, at Noon, on the Premises (unless previously disposed of by Private Sale),—

A Portion of that Piece or Parcel of GROUND, registered in the Land Office as Inland Lot No. 174, abutting on the North side thereof on a Close registered in the Land Office as Inland Lot No. 170, and measuring thereon forty-five feet, on the South side on the remaining portion of Inland Lot No. 174 and measuring thereon forty-five feet, on the East side thereof on Peel Street, and measuring thereon twenty-nine feet, and on the West side thereof on Staveley Street and measuring thereon twenty-nine feet, which said Piece or Parcel of Ground contains in the whole 1817 square feet and is known as No. 3 Peel Street, together with the three-story TENEMENT or DWELLING HOUSE erected thereon.

Annual Crown Rent, \$15.56.

TERMS OF SALE.—One-half of the purchase money to be paid on the fall of the hammer, and the balance on completion of the Deed of Transfer, the expenses of which to be paid by the purchaser.

The Property to be at Purchaser's risk on the fall of the hammer.

For further Particulars, apply to

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.,

Auctioneers,

Hongkong, February 26, 1877.

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POSTPONEMENT OF SALE.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

The Undersigned has received instruc-

tions from Rev. R. H. KIDD to

sell by Public Auction, on

MONDAY,

the 12th day of March, 1877, at 3 o'clock p.m. (instead of the time previously advertised), at his Residence, Albany Road, —

The whole of his Household FURNITURE, &c., comprising—Drawing, Dining and Bedroom Suites, Sofas, Chairs, Easy Chairs, Mirrors, Tables, Pictures, Sideboard, Whatnots, Glass and Plated Ware, Crockery Ware, Bedsteads, Wardrobes, Toilet Tables, and Glass Washstands, &c., &c.

Catalogues will be issued, and the whole to be on view on and after Saturday, the 10th March.

TERMS OF SALE.—Cash before delivery in Mexican Dollars weighed at 7.17.

All Lots, with all faults and errors of description, at purchaser's risk on the fall of the hammer.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,

Auctioneer,

Hongkong, February 26, 1877.

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Bank.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, 5,000,000 Dollars.
RESERVE FUND, 500,000 Dollars.

COUNCIL OF DIRECTORS.

Chairman—H. HOPKINS, Esq.

Deputy Chairman—F. D. SAMSON, Esq.

A. ANDRE, Esq.

E. R. BELLIOS, Esq.

Hon. W. KESWICK, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER.

Hongkong, Thomas JACKSON, Esq.

Manager.

Shanghai, Ewen CAMERON, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS.—London and County Bank.

HONGKONG.

INTEREST ALLOWED

ON Current Deposit Accounts at the rate of 1 per cent. per annum on the daily balance.

ON Fixed Deposits :—

For 3 months, 2 per cent. per annum.

6 " 4 per cent. "

12 " 5 per cent. "

Qualities One *, Two **, Three ***, and Four ****, in Cases of One Dozen Quarts.

Also,

Intimations.

MacEWEN, FRICKEL & Co.

ARE NOW LANDED AN INVOICE OF

ROUYER GUILLET & CO.'S
CELEBRATED BRANDY.

This BRANDY is well known in England, the Colonies, and India.

The Firm possess Six Vineyards and Six Distilleries,

and are amongst the largest shippers

from Charente.

in Quarts and Pints,

As supplied to the principal London Clubs.

Hongkong, January 5, 1877.

For Sale.

SAYLE & Co.

GREAT CLEARANCE SALE.

In Order to make Room for SPRING

GOODS.

On and after MONDAY, February 5th,

We shall offer the Remainder of Our

WINTER STOCK at an immense re-

duction.

DRESS GOODS at 15 cents per yard.

DRESS GOODS at 20 cents per yard.

DRESS GOODS at 25 cents per yard.

DRESS GOODS at 30 cents per yard.

DRESS GOODS at 35 cents per yard.

FANCY SILKS.—We offer about 5,000 yards at 35 cents per yard, (these are more or less soiled); original price \$1.50 and \$2.00 per yard.

JAPANESE SILKS.—Reduced to 40 cents per yard.

WOOL SHAWLS, MANTLES and JACKETS, Marked very Cheap.

LADIES', BOYS' and GIRLS' FELT HATS, at Half Price.

FANCY WOOL GOODS, at less than Half Price.

LADIES' and CHILDREN'S WOOL and MERINO HOSE, Greatly reduced.

100 dozen CHILDREN'S WOOL and MERINO SOCKS, all Sizes, at less than Half Price.

Several thousand Yards of VARIOUS REMANTS. Comprising: FLANNELS, CALICOS, PRINTS, MUSLINS, STUFF GOODS and Other Useful GOODS, are Marked at Prices, which must effect im-

mediate Sale.

In order to prevent disappointment,

We beg to inform Our Customers and the Public that this Extraordinary, and Un-

precedented Sale must close on February 25th.

SAYLE & Co.

VICTORIA EXCHANGE,

Queen's Road & Stanley Street.

For Sale.

JUST LANDED EX S. S. "Hesperia."

H. PIPER & Co.'s Celebrated CHAM-

PAGNE, CARTE BLANCHE, CARTE BLANCHE SEC and CARTE

DOREE in Qts. and Pints.

The above Sports will be held

ON THE CRICKET GROUND,

FRIDAY and SATURDAY,

9th & 10th March, 1877.

COMMITTEE:

Commodore G. W. WATSON, President.

Lt.-Col. C. A. S. DICKINS, Vice-President.

23rd Regt.,

MEMBERS:

Commander A. L. DOUGLAS, R.N.

H. SIMMOND, R.N.

Lieut. W. S. P. GRAVES, R.N.

J. E. O. GODRIE, R.N.

F. O. PINE, R.N.

Lieut.-Col. HALL, R.E.

Major BURTON, R.E.

Dep. Com. BAKER, Commiss. Dept.

Asst. KENNAGH, Ord. Dept.

Dr. WILSON, Medical Dept.

W. BYNES, Esq.

PROGRAMME:

1.—100 Yards Flat Race.

2.—440 Yards Flat Race.

3.—880 Yards Flat Race.

4.—1 Mile Flat Race, Open.

5.—1 Mile Flat Race, Open to Men of the Garrison.

6.—1 Mile Flat Race, Open to Sailors and Marines.

7.—2 Miles Flat Race.

8.—High Jump.

9.—Wide Jump.

10.—120 Yards Hurdles.—10 Flights.

11.—Boys' Race.—220 Yards Flat Race.

12.—Veteran Race.—300 Yards Flat Race.

For Men of 17 Years Service and Over.

13.—200 Yards Flat Race.—Heavy Marching Order.—Open to Soldiers and Marines.

14.—200 Yards Flat Race.—Heavy Marching Order.—Open to Blue Jackets.

15.—Three-Legged Race.

To-day's Advertisements.

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.
PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Company's Steamship
"TAN AIS,"
Comd't. REYNIER, will be
despatched for YOKOHAMA
on FRIDAY, the 9th Instant at 5 p.m.
H. DU POUEY,
Agent.

Hongkong, March 8, 1877. mcl5

NOTICE.

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.
PAQUEBOT POSTE FRANCAIS.

The Company's Steamship
"PEL-HO,"
Comd't. LECONTE, will be
despatched for SHANGHAI
on SATURDAY, the 10th Instant, at Noon.
H. DU POUEY,
Agent.

Hongkong, March 8, 1877. mcl5

COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES
MARITIMES.

S. S. PEL-HO.

NOTICE.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo per S. S.
"India," from London, in connection
with the above Steamer, are hereby
informed that their Goods are being
landed and stored at their risk at the
Company's Godowns, whence delivery may
be obtained from the time of landing.

Optional Cargo will be forwarded on,
unless intimation is received from the Consignees,
before 5 o'clock p.m. THIS DAY,
requesting it to be landed here.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
the Undersigned.

Goods remaining unclaimed after THURSDAY,
the 16th Instant, at Noon, will be
subject to rent and landing charges.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

H. DU POUEY,

Agent.

Hongkong, March 8, 1877. mcl5

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND
SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship *Arratoon Apear*, Capt. A.
B. MacTavish, having arrived from
the above Ports, Consignees of Cargo by
her are requested to send in their Bills of
Lading to the Undersigned for counter-
signature, and to take immediate delivery
of their Goods.

Cargo impeding her discharge will be
at once landed and stored at Consignees'
Risk and expense.

DAVID SASSON, SONS & CO.,
Agents.

Hongkong, March 8, 1877. mcl5

Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor
Owners will be Responsible for any
Debt contracted by the Officers or Crew
of the following Vessels, during their stay
in Hongkong Harbour:

STAR OF CHINA, British ship, Captain E.
B. Blaker.—Douglas Lapraik & Co.

NEMHIAH GIBSON, American barque,
Captain D. Bradford.—Arnold, Karberg
& Co.

BONITO, German barque, Captain J. F.
Wesenberg.—Siemssen & Co.

ALDEN BESSIE, American barque, Captain
S. Noyes.—Rozario & Co.

TRAVERTINE, British ship, Captain Robt.
Goldie.—Meyer & Co.

FORKORN, German 3-m. schooner, Capt.
G. Schwer.—Meichers & Co.

WANDERING MINSTREL, British barque,
Captain Wm. Sivewright.—Siemssen & Co.

MYSTIC BELLE, American ship, Captain
David Plumer.—Siemssen & Co.

ORANGE GROVE, British barque, Captain
A. Longmuir.—Vogel, Blagdon & Co.

ROSINA, American 3-m. schooner, Capt.
C. W. Hansen.—Arnold, Karberg & Co.

TULLOCHGORUM, British schooner, Capt.
S. Masson.—Chinese.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

March 8. Peipo, French steamer, 2129,
Leconte, Marseilles Jan. 23, Naples 30,
Port Said Feb. 8, Suez 5, Aden 10, Galli
20, Singapore 28, and Saigon Mar. 8, Mails
and General.—MESSAGERIES MARITIMES.

March 8. Patroclus, British steamer,
1680, Courtenay, Shanghai March 2, and
Amoy, General.—BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

DEPARTURES.

Mar. 8. Tigris, for Marseilles, &c.

8. Hispania, for Shanghai.

8. Esmeralda, for Amoy.

8. Glamorganshire, for Bangkok.

Cleared.

China, for Canton.

Norma, for Swatow.

Canton, for Newchwang.

Jacobine, for Takow.

Bonito, for London.

Mackellar, for Shanghai.

Nemhiah Gibson, for Cebu.

Passengers.

Arrived.

Per Peipo, for Hongkong from Marseilles,
Mr. Clement, Mr. and Mrs. Clark,
and Mr. Lutze's servant; from Batavia, Mr.
Caudwell; from Singapore, Messrs. Huo,
Cochrane, Mackellar, and Mr. Chinnery;

For Shanghai: from Marseilles, Mr.
Alexander, Revds. Doutre and Robert,
Sister Seyers, Vimmer, Thomeret,
and Grandivry, and Mr. Guillet; from Port
Said, Mrs. Marlott; For Yokohama: from
Marseilles, Messrs. Roquemartine, Maeda,
and Gordon; from Galli, Mr. Pott.

Per Patroclus, from Shanghai and Amoy;
for Hongkong, 15 Chinese; for Straits, 200
Chinese; for London, Mr. Bainstrom.

Departed.

Per Tanais, for Saigon, Sisters Marie
Auguste, Alyosia, Marie Benjamin, Miss
Asta de Lotha, Mrs. Adriana, Mrs. Maria
Lunes, Mr. Allard, and 4 Chinese; for
Singapore, Mr. Daniel de Costa, and 2
Chinese; for Marseilles, Revd. R. H. Kidd.

3 children and servant, Mrs. Pilgrim, and
child, Miss Dolores Carmen Guerra, Mrs.
Carmen Guerra, and child, Capt. Palmer,
Messrs. T. Wattles, W. McG. Smith,
Burrows, Lutken, Miguel Puig y Llogeta,
Antonio May y Ortiz, Julio Carmen,
Inglis, John Wilson, Alexander Steward,
Hughes, F. Guerra, Jose Velasco y Gines,
From Shanghai: for Saigon, Messrs.
Kotellez and Rorie; for Marseilles, Messrs.
Schepel, J. M. Walker, Thatcher, C. H.
Gough, F. S. Galpin, and A. Kaining.—
From Yokohama: for Saigon, Mr. Sibben;
for Galle, Mr. J. Walter Clutterbuck; for
Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Carrill, Miss Evelyn
Carrill, Miss Carrill, Messrs. R. Huggan,
Coudroy, Bourree, and Mr. Carrill's 2
children, Miss Anne Carrill, Miss Evelyn
Carrill, Miss Carrill, Messrs. R. Huggan,
Coudroy, Bourree, and Mr. Carrill's 2
servants.

Per Hispania, for Shanghai, 5 Europeans,
100 Chinese, and 20 European deck.

Per Esmeralda, for Amoy, 1 European,
and 50 Chinese.

Per Glamorganshire, for Bangkok, 2
Chinese.

To Depart.

Per Norma, for Swatow, 100 Chinese.

Per Canton, for Newchwang, 3 Chinese.

Per Macgregor, for Shanghai, 100 Chinese.

Per PEI-HO.

Comd't. Leconte, will be
despatched for SHANGHAI
on SATURDAY, the 10th Instant, at Noon.

H. DU POUEY,
Agent.

Hongkong, March 8, 1877. mcl5

SHIPPING REPORTS.

The British steamer *Patroclus* reports:

Light variable winds and fine weather
throughout the passage.

POST OFFICE NOTIFICATIONS.

MAILS will close:

For SHANGHAI.

For MACGREGOR, at 11.30 a.m. To-

morrow, the 9th Inst.

For COOKTOWN.

For THALES, at 1.30 p.m., on Friday,

the 9th Inst. The usual Mails will

be also made up for E. Australia,
Tasmania and New Zealand, 8 cent

rates.

For YOKOHAMA.

For TAN AIS, at 5 p.m. To-morrow, the

9th Inst.

For SWATOW.

For NORVAZ, at 7.30 p.m., on Friday,

the 9th Inst.

For SAIGON.

For JEDDAH, at 8.30 a.m., on Saturday,

the 10th Inst.

For SHANGHAI.

For PEI-HO, at 11 a.m., on Saturday,

the 10th Inst.; late letters received

from 11.10 to 11.30.

For HAIPHONG.

For Schooner TULLOCHGORUM, at

8.30 p.m., on Monday, the 12th Inst.

MAILS BY THE ENGLISH PACKET.

The English Contract Packet TRAVAN-

CORE will be despatched with the

Mails for Europe, &c., on THURS-

DAY, the 16th Instant.

The following will be the hours of closing
the Mails, &c.,

Wednesday, 14th—

5 p.m., Money Order Office closes.

6 p.m., Post Office closes except the NIGHT
Box, which remains open all night.

Thursday, 15th—

7 a.m., Post Office opens for sale
of Stamps, Registry of Letters, and
Posting of all correspondence.

10 a.m., Post Office closes except for Late
Letters. Registry of Letters ceases.

10.15 a.m., Letters may be posted with
LAKE FEES of 18 cents extra

Postage till

11 a.m., when the Post Office Closes
entirely.

11.30 a.m., Letters (but Letters only,
addressed to the United Kingdom,
via Brindisi or to Singapore, may
be posted on board the Packet with
Late Fee of 48 cents extra postage,
till

11.50 a.m., when the Mail is finally
closed.

Hongkong, March 2, 1877. mcl5

MAILS BY THE UNITED STATES PACKET.

The United States Mail Packet ALASKA

will be despatched on TUESDAY,

the 20th Instant, with Mails for

Japan, San Francisco, the United
States, and London, which will be
closed as follows:

2 p.m., Registry of Letters ceases.

2.30 p.m., Post-Office closes.

2.30 p.m., Correspondence for Japan or the
United States only may be posted
on board the Packet with Late Fee of 12 cents
extra Postage until

2.50 p.m., when the Mail is finally closed.

Correspondence must be specially directed
for this route, and if not fully prepaid
will be sent by British Packet.

General Post Office, Hongkong, 8.30 a.m.

March 8. The publication of this issue commenced
at 7.30 p.m.

THE CHINA MAIL.

HONGKONG, THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1877.

We learn from L' *Indépendant de Saigon* that the Messageries Maritimes
Company will shortly launch a new boat,
named the *Yangtze*. She is constructed
on the latest model, and will have the
same dimensions as the *Djennah*, her
tonnage being 3,610 tons. The arrangements
of the vessel will leave nothing to
be desired by passengers in the shape
of comfort. It is calculated that her
completion and equipment will take four
or five months, consequently she will not
be ready for her first voyage until about
July next. She is intended to replace the
Mitsong, which is to be docked for
repair.

Dogs, like their masters, seem to suffer
from some serious grievances in this
Colony. Shold' an unhappy one be
found roaming about during the day
without a collar with the owner's name
and address duly inscribed thereon, he runs
the risk of getting a few days' imprisonment,
and possibly, of meeting a lamentable
and premature end, and similar penalties
await him if collared or uncollared.
If he ventures from the protecting portals of
his master's house after gunfire, this, no
doubt, is rather hard on the dogs, but it
seems, from a case heard at the Police
Court yesterday, that our canine friends
run a risk in perambulating the streets
of which few of us were probably previ-

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week have been satisfactory, as they have comprised a good many vessels from transatlantic ports. Our communication with the Far East during the last week has been "small"; only one departure is to be reported, viz., the barque *Batavia*, Capt. Haesloop, to Hong Kong, and there have been no arrivals. The *China*, Fangmeyer, from Hangchow, has arrived at Bremen. On the bark here for the East Indies and China, are the *Ferona*, ss., for Penang, Singapore, &c., to leave on the 15th Feb.; *Pert*, *Luchin*, for Penang and Singapore; *Johann Friedrich*, Krocinek, for Singapore; *Vega*, *Vordell*, for Hong Kong; and *Bernard Carl*, *The Lander*, for Japan.

The Great Northern Telegraph Company announces that their London station has been placed in communication by pneumatic tube with the principal post-office telegraph stations in the city, and that the originals of all messages handed in at those stations are forwarded immediately to the company's station for further transmission. It is also announced that in order to expedite the delivery of messages received from China and Japan by the lines of the company arrangements have been made for a direct delivery by the company's own messengers, so that the messages will not, as heretofore, pass through the Post-office.

The Royal Humane Society's Testimonial has been presented to Lieut. J. W. Osborne, of H. M. S. *Narcissus*, for saving Marshal Mammard, of the same ship, who fell overboard at Woosung on the 18th of October last.

TABLE BAY.—Arrived, Dec. 22, *Otoe*, from Foochow (via Algoa Bay); 23, *Party*, from Hong Kong, for London, short of provisions; sailed, 17, *Triana*, for Guam.

CHINA AFFAIRS AT HOME. (From Our Own Correspondent)

London, Jan. 26, 1877.

The Chinese Embassy appears to be "shaking down," but only by small degrees. I hear that the landlord of the mansion in Portland Place, which has been engaged for His Excellency, does not altogether appreciate the peculiarities of Chinese life, of which evidence has already been given. What can be done in a Yamen, with perfect propriety and the fullest recognition of the exigencies of the *Tao-tien*, may not be exactly fitted for the inside of a house in a fashionable part of London. A day or two ago, I was passing down the street without knowing that the august *Kuo-tai-jen* had taken up his abode there, when I came across some of his Yamen runners hanging about outside the door in the style so familiar to those who have seen the Chinese at home. I spoke to one of them in the Peking dialect, and he entered very readily into conversation evidently as much pleased as surprised at finding a "foreign devil" turn up so unexpectedly, who was sufficiently enlightened to speak "Mandarin." I talked away for some two or three minutes, just as I would with the Yamen runner we came across when "up country" on a shorting excursion; but I was soon reminded that a foreigner speaking Chinese to a Celestial was not an ordinary thing in London by the formation of a select audience who were beginning to watch the proceedings with open eyes and open mouths. *Chin-lai*—said the accomodating runner, and ushered me into the Hall—a plain English hall, not a Chinese *Tang*; where he begged me to be seated in the regular Chinese fashion by which usually about half-an-hour is taken to arrive at one's seat so as not to be a second before your host. The interview did not go beyond a little formal convivastion as to the journey of the *Tao-tien*, the magnificence of the steamers and such generalities as are usually indulged in on such occasions; and as I knew one of the Chinese attachés to the Embassy, I left a card for him and took my departure. I must confess it seemed somewhat strange to find all the familiar surroundings of a Chinese residence in the heart of London; and I could not but reflect upon the startling illustration which the Chinese afford of the truth of the proverb, *cuzin non animunt mutant, qui trans mare current*. There were our old friends. After a journey of 15,000 miles, and in place as different from those to which they are used as it is possible, to conceive, with precisely the same style and manner and with the same nonchalance, as if they were in one of their own dear Chinese cities, with its narrow dirty streets, bawling coolies and savoury smells. I suspect the Embassy will not be over popular unless it adapts itself a little more than it has done as yet to European tastes. It is early yet for complaints to be made on its ground; but I hear that a large number of very well-educated and refined men here—none of your prejudiced and ignorant foreign residents in China, as some are too ready to represent them—are not by any means quite so much inclined to admire His Excellency *Kuo* as, for example, Sir Thomas Wade or Mr. Hart. It is not yet decided when the Ambassador is to be presented to Her Majesty; but this event will no doubt come up shortly—and I am credibly informed that there is a chance of "Lady *Kuo*," as she is called here, also being presented to Her Majesty. In writing about these my last letter I ridiculed the idea as suggested by the "special" of one of the London dailies; but I have since heard from reliable authority that Sir Thomas Wade does not consider that the presentation of the second wife would be out of

order, and, contrary to what is generally understood to be the case, looks upon the position of "wives of the second degree" as perfectly respectable. Sir Thomas Wade ought to know more about this kind of thing than anybody else; but I am very much inclined to believe he is mistaken. I suspect that careful enquiries will be made before any presentation takes place. Any way, however, I cannot help thinking it will be a mistake. The Chinese, let alone, would never expect that "Lady *Kuo*" would be presented; and the foreign advisers, whether they may be, who have recommended that step, have, to put the matter in the mildest form, at the very least entrenched needlessly upon very delicate ground.

The Standard gives a lengthened account of four new gun-boats designed for the Chinese Government; and two of which have already been built by Sir W. Armstrong. They consist in the first place of two vessels, having each a load displacement of 325 tons, with a draught of 7 feet 6 inches, and carrying each a gun of 27 tons. These two vessels have made the voyage to China in a most satisfactory manner, showing themselves able to cope with some tolerably rough weather. The voyage from Aden to Point de Galle, a distance of 2100 nautical miles, was made without break and with perfect ease, under steam and sail, the vessels reaching Tian-tsin by the end of last November. It is observed that these gun-boats made their way from England to China with their guns and ammunition all on board, and fully prepared to go into action had occasion required it. The remaining two gun-boats are of peculiarly formidable character. They are twin-vessels, and one described will serve for both, as in the former case. The length 115 feet, with a beam of 30 feet, the draught being 8 feet, and the free-board about three feet. The load displacement is 430 tons, and the speed under steam nine knots an hour. Each vessel carries 50 tons of coal in her bunkers, besides which she can carry a certain quantity in sacks on deck. The vessels are iron built and have numerous compartments, especially in the forecastle, where injury is most likely to occur. The engines are below the water line, and the boilers are nearly so, the latter being furthest protected by the coal which surrounds them in front and on the sides. The shell-room and the magazine are entirely below the water-line, and are protected from splinters by a horizontal bulkhead. The engines are surface-condensing, and are highly expansive in their principle of working. In construction they are very simple. The economy of fuel is considerable, so that under ordinary circumstances of weather these vessels could make 1600 miles under steam alone. But they are mastless gun-boats, each being fitted with two tripod masts, each limb of the tripod being tubular, and one of the tripods being made to receive the topmast when the latter is lowered. The steam propulsion is by twin screws, and the foregoing method of masting provides for a minimum of rigging so as to diminish the risk of the screw-propellers being fouled in action by fallen cordage.

It is evident that the Chinese are at present, thanks to the valuable foreign assistance, they are able to command in so many directions, thoroughly acquainted with the best ways of obtaining efficient gun-boats and munitions of war. I should think there is some little art in bringing these new gun-boats before the notice of the public just at the time when the Chinese Ambassador is about to settle his negotiation at the Foreign office. At all events, the coincidence is worthy of note.

Police Intelligence.
(Both Magistrate Sitting)
March 8, 1877.

HIGHWAY ROBBERY.
George Batten, a private H. M. 28th Regiment, No. 657, was again brought up for having robbed a collector of insects of some cash and two cases of insects, and for having assaulted another man with intent to rob him. The Magistrate intimated to him that he would commit the case for trial, and after the usual caution, the prisoner stated that he was walking along by himself about 4 past 2 o'clock on the 4th. He saw nine soldiers come down by a road, one of them had a helmet. Prisoner met Private Shan-han-ssey and he asked him to give him a light. He did so. The man went his way, while prisoner turned off from the Camp, passing the Police Station, when the Police Inspector called him back, and asked him how far he had been, and whether he had been near the Black Rock. Prisoner replied that he had not, and did not know where it was. The Chinaman then said he was the man, and the Inspector of the road into custody. Private Michael Shaughnessy was then called. He said he saw Bernard at 2.30 p.m. on the 4th, about half a mile on the Kowloon city side of Yowmaatea. They were together about two minutes, and he gave witness a light for his pipe. They then parted and witness left to go to the Camp. Witness saw about eleven soldiers half-a-mile off at the same time. Three of them had helmets on. The prisoner was then formally committed for trial.

ANOTHER HIGHWAY ROBBERY.

James Barnard, a private H. M. 28th Regiment, No. 591, was again brought up for having robbed a collector of insects of some cash and two cases of insects, and for having assaulted another man with intent to rob him. The Magistrate intimated to him that he would commit the case for trial, and after the usual caution, the prisoner stated that he was walking along by himself about 4 past 2 o'clock on the 4th. He saw nine soldiers come down by a road, one of them had a helmet. Prisoner met Private Shan-han-ssey and he asked him to give him a light. He did so. The man went his way, while prisoner turned off from the Camp, passing the Police Station, when the Police Inspector called him back, and asked him how far he had been, and whether he had been near the Black Rock. Prisoner replied that he had not, and did not know where it was. The Chinaman then said he was the man, and the Inspector of the road into custody. Private Michael Shaughnessy was then called. He said he saw Bernard at 2.30 p.m. on the 4th, about half a mile on the Kowloon city side of Yowmaatea. They were together about two minutes, and he gave witness a light for his pipe. They then parted and witness left to go to the Camp. Witness saw about eleven soldiers half-a-mile off at the same time. Three of them had helmets on. The prisoner was then formally committed for trial.

SHAW-KING.

John Crock, a steward unemployed, was charged with being drunk and refusing to pay chair-hire. The Hon. O. May fined him \$1 and ordered him to pay 20 cents chair-hire. The defendant was identified as having been convicted of a similar offence on the 6th.

UNLAWFUL POSSESSION.

Wong aching and U-adon, coolies employed at Messrs Spratt & Co.'s yard, were charged by Mr. J. M. Emanuel with having in their possession several small pieces of old wood. Fined 80 cents each.

CUTTING AND WOUNDING.

Obtin Ahan, a boiler-maker, was brought up on remand for having broken the arm of Maik Kwaih, No. 1 boiler-maker at the Novelty Iron Works. More convincing evidence was taken, each side adhering to its own theory of the affair. The prosecution maintained that the attack on the complainant was deliberate, and the defense

that it was the result of a fit of rage.

Alababad. Feb. 8.—Roberts played yesterday at the Alababad Club giving old el Drayson \$60 in 10 h. and being beaten by more than a hundred.

Lahore. Feb. 9.—The Conference at Peshawar continued and sat on Monday for six hours discussing preliminaries.

Bombay. Feb. 9.—The difficulties of the famine relief works still exist. The British railway works have been sanctioned.

Calcutta. Feb. 9.—There have been heavy storms throughout Bengal and in Calcutta during the last three days. Many cargo boats have been lost in the rivers Hugli,

at Goalundo much rice has been damaged. A ferry steamer sank near Ulubara.

Bombay. Feb. 8.—The weather has slightly damaged the cotton crop, and causes the export season to be late and short. More irrigation works have been projected, but all are insufficient for the probable necessities in April.

Calcutta. Feb. 10.—The number on relief works in Madras for the week ended the 5th instant decreased thirty-two thousand.

The decrease occurred in Cuddapah, Bellary, Coimbatore and Tannevelly. There was an increase in Kunool, Chingleput, Salem, Nellore and Madura. The number on relief works in Mysore is forty-one thousand. There is no material change in the districts.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

(*Straits Times*.)

EUROPEAN NEWS.

Constantinople. Feb. 6.—The negotiations for peace which were entered into by Midhat Pasha, between the Turks and Servians, have been suspended. The direct cause of Midhat Pasha's fall is unknown. Meanwhile, he has been banished.

London. Feb. 9.—In the Lords last night, Lord Granville urged the united action of European Powers in coercing the Porte to accept the proposals made by the Conference. The Duke of Argyl and the Marquis of Hartington acceded the Government with changing its policy.

London. Feb. 10.—Replying to a question in the House of Commons, Sir Stafford Northcote explained that the omission of any allusion, in the Queen's Speech, to the late disastrous Cyclone in Bengal was due to the absence of Lord Salisbury from London.

St. Petersburg. Feb. 10.—The Russian Press considers it would be needless for Russia to wage war against Turkey, whose fall will be quicker through internal anarchy than by any foreign attack.

London. Feb. 12.—Liberal organs commenting upon a Blue Book on the Eastern Question, approve of the attitude of Government during the Conference; but attack it for now stopping short of a policy of coercion wherby it could prevent the actual action of Russia. *The Times* in an article on the Eastern Question says that the country will go with Lord Derby in his policy.

Constantinople. Feb. 12.—Peace negotiations between Turkey and Servia, have been resumed, the Turks having withdrawn their demand for guarantees. Midhat Pasha has arrived at Belvidere, and in reply to an English deputation, said he attributed his exile to Russian intrigue.

London. Feb. 13.—In the House of Commons Mr Gladstone gave notice that on Friday next he would bring forward a motion asking how Government understand the treaty exact amount, in view of the despatch sent by Lord Derby to Sir H. Elliot on the 5th of August last, stating that in case Russia declared war against Turkey, England could not defend her.

London. Feb. 14.—In the House of Commons last night, Mr. Fawcett brought forward a motion for the reappointment of Mr. Gladstone to the Foreign Office.

London. Feb. 15.—In the House of Commons Mr Gladstone gave notice that on Friday next he would bring forward a motion asking how Government understand the treaty exact amount, in view of the despatch sent by Lord Derby to Sir H. Elliot on the 5th of August last, stating that in case Russia declared war against Turkey, England could not defend her.

London. Feb. 16.—In the House of Commons Mr Bourke, in his speech on the Poona for Galle and Calcutta at one this afternoon. [Due at Galle early on Friday morning, the 23rd instant.—ED. O. O.]

London. Feb. 15.—Homeward French mail for Sidihi (Hongkong 11th January) delivered this day. Passed Canal Homeward via Suria and London. Outwards

Aden. Feb. 14.—The *Venice*, with outward English mails of the 2nd instant, left here for Bombay at 8 o'clock this evening, and the *Poona* for Galle and Calcutta at one this afternoon. [Due at Galle early on Friday morning, the 23rd instant.—ED. O. O.]

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London. Feb.

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The Beater's Song.

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